

sacrificed a lot of his leisure time to the preparation of this book and it deserves to become the logical successor to *Physics for the anaesthetist* by Sir Robert McIntosh. I can highly recommend it to anaesthetists of all grades, theatre and intensive care technicians and nurses.

DLC

Orthopaedics and trauma. Edited by S P F Hughes. (pp 118. Illustrated. £19.95). London: Baillière Tindall, 1985. (Current operative surgery).

It is a pleasure to receive this book for review and I cannot imagine that any orthopaedic specialist would think otherwise.

Professor Hughes and the publishers have amply fulfilled their remit in selecting, from established experts in their fields, a wide spectrum in current orthopaedic operative technology. That super-specialisation is inevitable is well demonstrated and it would be virtually impossible for any reader to evaluate each and every chapter critically from personal experience. Some chapters may even incur frank hostility!

That each team of orthopaedic surgeons (and we do work in teams) will require a copy is certain. It will be simply devoured by those in training with an appetite for further knowledge and innovative technology. The layout and standard of production is excellent, with a slight lapse in proof-reading at the word 'neoplasm'. The diagrams relating to operative technique are exceptionally clear and pleasing, the radiographs only occasionally indistinct, and clinical photographs are restricted, as (though restful to readers) they are seldom instructive. This excellent and varied collection of specialist articles is well worth the price and will find its way on to many individual bookshelves and into every departmental orthopaedic reading room — my own copy is already on its way there.

PO

Blood transfusion and blood banking. Guest editor, William L Bayer. (pp 306. £13.75). London: Saunders, 1984. (Clinics in haematology, vol 13, no 1).

During the past few years there has been a very marked change in the pattern of blood transfusion therapy. Thus, whereas requirements for red cells have remained fairly constant, the usage of various blood components has increased enormously. The many developments in blood component therapy are well reflected in this volume of *Clinics in haematology*. The book comprises a series of review articles, mostly of North American authorship but also including a substantial input from the U.K. Most of the articles are directed towards haematologists and transfusion specialists, so that transfusion support in haematological malignancies, congenital coagulation disorders and haemolytic anaemias are each very fully covered by well established experts. Major omissions include the management of haemorrhage, acquired coagulation disorders and transfusion support of intensive care patients. Some parts will be of interest outside haematology and in this respect I particularly enjoyed the chapter on the clinical use of immunoglobulins. This growing field is very well reviewed by workers from Edinburgh who are actively involved in the development as well as clinical assessment of new immunoglobulins.

Another rapidly expanding area of transfusion medicine involves the use of apheresis techniques for therapeutic purposes and also for collection of blood components from donors. Both aspects of apheresis are discussed very fully in separate chapters, each extensively referenced. Description of the side effects of transfusion therapy is limited to one chapter on transfusion-related infections. The latter is disappointing because, while transfusion transmitted cytomegalovirus infection is discussed at great length, reflecting the interests of the authors, the more important areas of AIDS and particularly non-A non-B hepatitis are dealt with rather sketchily. In the case of AIDS, much of the information is unavoidably obsolete, having been written before the discovery of HTLV III as the causative agent.

WMMCC

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